

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY Thailand/Indochina

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

SUBJECT Activities of Vietnamese in Thailand

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REFERENCES

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1. Meetings of Democratic Republic of Vietnam (DRV) sympathizers in northeastern Thailand are usually conducted in groups of three or four persons and are usually held on Sunday.
2. Living expenses of the DRV Canbo¹ are paid by contributions from DRV sympathizers who contribute the equivalent of two days' wages per month. This amount averages between 10 and 15 baht per family. During the first two months of 1952 a subscription was collected among DRV sympathizers in Nong Khai (N 17-52, E 102-44) to raise funds for the purchase of five guns which were to be sent to the DRV in Vietnam. In addition to money, sympathizers supply medicine, clothing and canned goods.
3. In Nong Khai, enlistments for military service with the DRV in Vietnam are effected by a Vietnamese whose profession is that of medicine man.²
4. Men and materiel are supplied to the DRV in Vietnam every six months. The more commonly used routes are through Ban Srichiengmai, Ban Tha Bo (N 17-50, E 102-33) and Phon Phisai (N 18-00, E 103-00). About the end of July 1952, one man was sent from Nong Khai to Ban Phon Daeng (N 15-08, E 104-18).
5. Celebrations were held in Nong Khai, Ban Tha Bo and Srichiengmai on 19 August 1952, the seventh anniversary of DRV resistance against the French. Vietnamese shops, as well as a number of others, were closed for the holiday. Religious ceremonies were performed in honor of those who had lost their lives in resisting the French. Public parties were held at the homes of a number of important Vietnamese.
6. The Vietnamese in Nong Khai are divided into three general groups:
 - a. The openly pro-DRV adherents, the majority of whom are from the laboring and low-income classes. They contribute voluntarily to the DRV and are in no way secretive about their allegiance. As a group, they are the most influential of the

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Vietnamese in the area.

- b. The pro-Bao Dai group, which has little influence in the community. Members of this group are largely those who have previously accumulated wealth or are from families who were officials under the French rule.
- c. Those who call themselves the Third Force. There has been noticeable organization in this group during the past three months. The movement is reported to be growing rapidly because it is well-supplied with funds from Bangkok. Most of its adherents are young and relatively well-educated.

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1.  Comment. Cadre.

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2.  Comment. The English translation would be "quack doctor."

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